

## Press Release

Lake County Sheriff's Office www.sheriffdunlap.org

Daniel A. Dunlap Sheriff

PRESS RELEASE July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013

Wednesday, July 3<sup>rd</sup> through Sunday, July 7<sup>th</sup>, will be a busy week-end on the northern shores of Lake County. The week-end starts on the 3<sup>rd</sup> with the Fairport Mardi Gras parade in the Village of Fairport and four day festival on Fairport's Metro Park beach, and ends a fireworks show. Fireworks will be held as well on the 4<sup>th</sup> in the City of Mentor, July 5<sup>th</sup> in Fairport and at the Mentor Yacht Club, and fireworks in Fairport Harbor on the 7<sup>th</sup>.

To meet the large crowds expected on area beaches at Fairport, Mentor Headlands, and Mentor-On-The-Lake for the 4<sup>th</sup>, holiday week-end and firework shows, area law enforcement from the Sheriff's Office, City of Mentor, Fairport Harbor, State of Ohio Park System, Grand River, Lake Metro Parks and Mentor-On-The Lake will have a <u>significant increase</u> in their presence on the lake front, as well as roads and highways leading to these areas. Residents planning to use these areas should be prepared for heavy traffic patterns in and out of the parks and shore areas.

In light of the potential problems created through such heavy usage, area law enforcement wants to remind everyone of a few key points:

- 1. No alcoholic beverages are permitted on the beaches and parks. Persons using these parks will be subject to searches when entering the parks. Coolers will be searched and all alcohol confiscated, and persons cited into court for such violations.
- 2. Police dogs will be present to perform regular searches throughout the area for drugs and other contraband.
- 3. Police units outfitted with license plate readers will positioned throughout the area to check for any persons with outstanding warrants, and will make arrests accordingly.
- 4. All of the park areas require permits for any organized events, and such permits need to be applied for 30 days previous to the event. Any group violating

Lake County Sheriff's Office 104 East Erie Street Painesville, Ohio 44077 Phone: 440.350.5517 Fax: 440.350.5590

permit restrictions will be prosecuted.

5. Finally, it is illegal to discharge fireworks not only on the beaches, but in any area (including homes or vacant lot) in the State of Ohio. All violators will be prosecuted for failure to comply.

Area law enforcement hopes that everyone enjoys what promises to be a great extended holiday week-end in our area. Enjoy yourself, but also respect the rights of your neighbors to enjoy their time with family and friends.

Frank Leonbruno

Chief Deputy Frank Leonbruno (440)350-5501 sheriffdunlap.org



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